

Message Text

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11

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 MMO-04 /020 W

----- 078565

R 091729Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 236

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 6687

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO; PANAMA FOR RSS AND RMO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: MARINE SECURITY GUARD, SANTIAGO

REFS: A) STATE 168306; B) SANTIAGO 6266

1. DETAILED STUDY OF MSG UTILIZATION WAS CONDUCTED BY RSO UPON ARRIVAL AT POST BASED ON ARA BRANCH CHIEF'S RECOMMENDATION AS CITED REFTEL A. INITIAL IMPRESSION SUPPORTED RECOMMENDATION MADE BY ARA BRANCH CHIEF. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE BENEFIT OF TIME HAVE CONCLUDED THAT MSG POST #2 FROM 0100 TO 0600 IS NECESSARY DUE TO FOLLOWING REASONS:

A) EMBASSY OFFICE BUILDING IS VERY OLD AND FALLING APART. GSO FORCED TO HAVE CONTRACTORS WORKING ON A DAILY BASIS JUST TO MAINTAIN BUILDING. OFTENTIMES THIS NECESSITATES "LOCKING" THE WORKERS IN THE EMBASSY ALL NIGHT. MOST OF THIS WORK IS DONE IN RESTRICTED AREAS, THUS NECESSITATING AN ESCORT. AT TIMES IT IS NECESSARY TO BRING IN AN ADDITIONAL OFF-DUTY MARINE TO ASSIST IN THESE ENDEAVORS.

B) IN ADDITION MSG'S HAVE CHAR FORCE ESCORT, SECURITY SWEEP, AND BURN.

C) MSG'S ALSO CONDUCT AFTER HOURS SECURITY CHECK AND CHAR ESCORT AT USAID AND CONSULATE BUILDINGS.

2. ACCESS CONTROL AT CONSULATE HAS BEEN IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY

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AS CITED IN REFTEL B. BELIEVE ACCESS CONTROL CONFORMS NOT ONLY

IN THEORY BUT IN PRACTICE, WITH CURRENT STATE OF THE ART. HOWEVER,
MUST ONCE AGAIN REPEAT THAT SECURITY OF USG PERSONNEL WITHIN
CONSULATE WOULD BE ENHANCED IMMEASURABLY WITH THE ADDITION OF A
TRAINED, PROFESSIONAL AND DEPENDABLE US MARINE. DEPARTMENT WELL
AWARE OF VULNERABILITY OF CONSULATES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

3. MOST EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION MSG'S HAS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE
TO BE OBJECT OF RSO'S ATTENTION. WELCOME ANY SUGGESTIONS A/SY/FO
MAY HAVE GIVEN CIRCUMSTANCES CITED SUPRA.
POPPER

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